

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Tuesday 01 Feb 2022 until 23:59 on Wednesday 02 Feb 2022

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 01 Feb 2022 at 03:37

Confidence: Low confidence about clearance of frontal rain on Tuesday with some low cloud and rain perhaps lingering for much of the day over southwestern fells. Additionally if the front moves further southwest there will be better cloud and visibility than forecast. Further uncertainty on Wednesday as the front moves back over the Lake District. High confidence for the return of colder conditions by the end of the week.

Headline for Tuesday 01 Feb 2022: Northwesterly gales, a wet start but becoming drier during the morning, perhaps some afternoon brightness.

Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 01 Feb 2022

Blizzards

No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow

No Likelihood

Storm force winds

No Likelihood

Gales

High Likelihood

Severe chill effect

Low Likelihood

Poor visibility

Low Likelihood

Thunderstorms

No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain

No Likelihood

Strong sunlight

No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
					
Mist	Drizzle	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy
Precipitation probability					
30%	30%	20%	20%	10%	<05%

Forecast for Tuesday 01 Feb 2022

Weather: Light and patchy rain will affect the area with milder air for a time on Tuesday morning. The area of rain will move away south but may take some time to completely clear the Lake District and there is some uncertainty about the clearance. The Northern Fells should see the best clearance with a few bright or sunny spells in the afternoon but southwestern Fells may remain cloudy with a few outbreaks of light rain at times.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10% in the morning with widespread extensive low cloud, improving to 70% in the afternoon and more chance for the north of the National Park.

Low cloud and visibility: Extensive low cloud layers in the morning from 500m and above and light rain will make visibility quite poor at times especially around western fells. As the rain area begins to clear south some breaks will develop in the cloud in the north and it will become scattered above 700m, if the rain does not totally clear the southwestern fells cloud here will remain broken.

Forecast for Tuesday 01 Feb 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)				Wind Direction (blowing from)		
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	47/56 W	48/59 W	50/62 NW	47/60 NW	44/55 NW	37/47 NW	30/37 W
600	35/45 W	37/49 W	38/53 W	36/49 NW	31/44 NW	27/38 W	22/31 W
300	12/37 NW	13/40 NW	16/45 NW	16/42 NW	13/38 NW	11/33 NW	8/25 W
Valley	9/33 NW	10/35 W	14/40 W	13/38 NW	11/32 NW	9/27 W	7/21 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	5/-3	4/-4	4/-4	3/-6	2/-7	2/-7	2/-5
600	6/0	6/-1	6/-1	5/-2	4/-3	4/-3	4/-2
300	7/4	8/4	8/4	7/4	6/3	6/2	6/3
Valley	8/6	9/7	10/7	9/7	8/6	8/6	8/6
Freezing Level*	1800m	1500m	1400m	1200m	1100m	1100m	1500m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Meteorologist's View

Milder air for a time however freezing level will lower back towards the higher summits by the end of the day. Northwesterly gales or severe gales on the summits of the higher fells during the morning.

Forecast for Wednesday 02 Feb 2022

Weather: A mainly dull and cloudy day with light and patchy rain likely over the area for much of the day but a lot of uncertainty in the extent of this. The east is likely to see the best conditions with some drier and brighter spells with the western fells experiencing persistent drizzle or light rain.

Maximum wind: Westerly 20 mph with gusts 30mph becoming Southwesterly 15-20mph later.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10% in the west improving to 40%. In the east 30% improving to 60% later.

Low cloud and visibility: Extensive low cloud likely above 400m in the morning especially in the west but a few breaks may be found further east. Cloud breaks developing during the afternoon with better views likely in the east. Moderate or poor visibility especially in light rain and drizzle, perhaps some good visibility in the afternoon in the east.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 7 rising to 11 Celsius.
At 800m: Plus 5 Celsius.
Freezing level: above the summits.

Ground Conditions Supplement

Very different ground conditions to those expected following snow falling late Sunday afternoon above 700m. Virtually none of this has settled and so the vast majority of both the Lakeland Fells and paths remain free from snow right up to and including summit level. In fact many paths and rocks, especially those catching the sun or exposed to the strong winds, were dry. Conversely above 400m, and especially above 700m, there were more patches of verglas (thin ice) black ice and thicker ice on paths and rocks compared to recently. This creates an obvious hazard particularly when combined with the strength of today's very gusty wind.

In addition, most noticeably on Helvellyn (compared with the other fells), there are patches of old hard icy snow which have been present for weeks now and have undergone several thaw/freeze cycles. These can be found in sheltered spots and hollows and on east and north facing aspects above 750m, with the vast majority being above 850m. Owing to both the altitude and location of these snow patches, many have not thawed at all in the past fortnight or done so incredibly slowly if they have. Thus walkers out on the high fells and attempting, or traversing, steep north and east facing aspects on Helvellyn (such as the exits to both Striding and Swirral Edges) should be prepared and equipped to encounter hard, icy snow with ice axe and crampons or microspikes.

Issued at: 03:37 on Tue 01 Feb 2022